

REBECCA COHN eNEWSLETTER

for the twenty-fourth Assembly District

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Cohn's Comment



As many of you know, I have continuously worked to keep California's children and neighborhoods safe from crime and sexual predators. I have worked closely with my colleagues in the Assembly on this issue. I have authored and coauthored three new laws protecting children that have gone into effect:

- I authored legislation that prohibits an inmate released on parole for child abuse or sexual assault of a child from being placed or residing, for the duration of parole, within one-half mile of any public or private school.
- I coauthored legislation that revises the Megan's Law website to include the dates of conviction for crimes and the date the sex offender will be released from prison.
- I coauthored legislation that helps law enforcement to get increased up-to-date information on sex offenders by changing how he or she informs law enforcement about their address.

The Legislature's ongoing battle to protect the state's youngest residents continues with Assembly Bill 50. This bill would strengthen California's already tough stance on

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Anti-Piracy Bill Signed into Law

SACRAMENTO – Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed AB 64: Recording Crimes (Cohn) into law at a bill signing ceremony on February 22. AB 64 lowers the threshold for the possession of pirated CD's to from 1000 to 100. Cohn called the new law a victory for the tens of thousands of people employed in the recording industry, from truck drivers to executives, as well as music fans everywhere. ♦



Left to right: Joel Flatow, Sr. VP, West Coast Affairs, RIAA, Assemblymember Rebecca Cohn; Kim Allman, Sr. VP, State Government Relations, RIAA; Phil Quartararo, Executive Vice President, EMI Music Worldwide; Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger; Zach Horowitz, Chief Operating Officer, Universal Music Group

Upcoming Events in the 24th Assembly District

"Stranger Danger" Camp and Children's Safety Resource Fair

Saturday, March 18, 2006
10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Pomeroy Elementary School
1250 Pomeroy Avenue,
Santa Clara, CA

This event is free and open to the public. Attendees will receive a free identification kit with digital fingerprints, a photograph and a DNA swab of their child. Public



Cohn and Officer Perea talk about strangers

safety officers will provide instruction for parents and children on dealing with strangers. For more information, contact Julie Lind at (408) 282-8920 or Julie.Lind@asm.ca.gov.

Carnival and Health Fair

Saturday, April 1, 2006
9:30 AM to 12:30 PM
Camden Community Center
3369 Union Avenue
San Jose, CA

The Fair will include free health screenings, community outreach services, and health information. Kaiser Permanente and the Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Association will provide cooking demonstrations. For more information, contact Tori Ueda at (408) 282-8920 or Tori.Ueda@asm.ca.gov. ♦

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sexual predators. The bill would keep predators farther away from schools, school grounds, and nearby streets and sidewalks. It would also increase parole periods for predators.

The bill passed the Assembly on January 31, 2006 and is now awaiting approval in the State Senate. Please take a moment and learn about what the Legislature is doing to protect your family by being tough on crime. Thank you.

– Assemblymember Rebecca Cohn
Assemblymember.Cohn@assembly.ca.gov

To learn more about AB 50 or to track its progress, visit
<http://leginfo.ca.gov/>. ♦

Emergency Fair Teaches Safety Tips

CAMPBELL – Assemblymember Cohn hosted her first ever Emergency Preparedness Fair on Saturday, February 25th. The Fair brought together public health and safety experts from the



Cohn listens to a presentation with citizens and public safety officers

following agencies to distribute information to the community on how to protect themselves and their loved ones:

Red Cross, Santa Clara County District Attorney's SAFE Task Force, California Highway Patrol, Santa Clara County Fire, Campbell Police Department, Santa Clara Valley Water District, AT&T, County Supervisor Jim Beall's Office, Valley Medical Center, Santa

Eradicating Colon Cancer Starts at Home

SAN JOSE – March is Colon Cancer Awareness Month and Assemblymember Rebecca Cohn is joining the efforts to raise awareness about the deadly disease. Colon cancer is the third most common type of cancer diagnosed. More than 14,000 Californians will be diagnosed with colon cancer during 2006 and nearly half will die from it.

The local chapter of the American Cancer Society (ACS) has partnered with the medical community, elected officials, civic leaders and corporations to eliminate colon cancer as a public health concern. The "Colon Cancer-Free Zone" Advisory Committee, the first of its kind in the nation, was launched to increase public awareness of colon cancer and help reduce the incidents of this disease to the lowest possible rate. A "Colon Cancer-Free Zone" is a grassroots movement started locally to change habits and screening behaviors, similar to ACS' smoking and breast cancer awareness campaigns.

Assemblymember Cohn has enthusiastically joined the effort and recognizes the seriousness of this disease and the benefits of early detection. She sends out letters to constituents every month encouraging people to get screened. She has collaborated with the ACS to create an educational brochure to send to over 30,000 households in the 24th Assembly District, targeting the at-risk population of 50- to 70-year-olds.

Fortunately, colon cancer is more than 90 percent preventable if detected early. It almost always starts with a polyp, which is a small growth on the inner lining of the colon or rectum. The ACS recommends screening for both men and women beginning at age 50.

How you can start a zone:

Becoming a "Colon Cancer-Free Zone" is simple – it requires an official declaration by a city, organization, business, church, etc. and promotion about colon cancer and early detection; a dedication to the prevention of this deadly but highly preventable disease. The ACS offers materials and speakers to help educate members or clients within your zone.

The "Colon Cancer-Free Zone" concept is being adopted in New England and other regions of the country. The message is spreading just as the local ACS office and Advisory Committee had hoped.

For more information about colon cancer and screenings, contact: ACS at (800) ACS-2345 or visit the Web site at www.cancer.org. ♦

ARE YOU AT RISK?

If you answer YES to any of these questions, you are at an increased risk of colon cancer...

- Are you 50 or older?
- Has a doctor ever told you that you have inflammatory bowel disease?
- Has an immediate family member had colon cancer or colon polyps?
- Are you physically inactive (i.e. not getting regular exercise)?
- Do you eat red meat often?

Remember, colon cancer is 90 percent preventable!

Clara County Sheriff's Department, Santa Clara County Public Health Department, and the Silicon Valley Humane Society

Brief discussions on fire safety, flood safety, disaster safety and emergency

communication were also held.

To get information on different health and safety resources in your area, please contact Julie Lind in the Assemblymember's district office at (408) 282-8920 or Julie.Lind@asm.ca.gov. ♦